

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2642**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Campos**

February 21, 2014

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An act relating to minors.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2642, as introduced, Campos. Minors: sexualized portrayal.

Existing law makes it a felony, punishable by imprisonment in the state prison for 16 months, or 2 or 3 years, or in a county jail for up to one year, or by a fine not exceeding \$2,500, or by both the fine and imprisonment, to knowingly possess or control any matter depicting a person under 18 years of age engaging in or simulating sexual conduct.

This bill would state that it is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to limit the public display of sexualized images of female minors by restricting the advertising of products, services, and entertainment that portray female minors in a sexualized manner.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1     SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2     following:
- 3         (1) Pornography has moved out of its previous hiding places to
- 4         gain mainstream acceptance and social value.
- 5         (2) The imagery, values, and aesthetics of pornography are now
- 6         embedded in all areas of popular culture.

1 (3) Representations of girls and women in sexual poses are  
2 commonplace.

3 (4) Advertising, music videos, video games, commercial films,  
4 and other cultural products are all a vehicle for this aesthetic,  
5 particularly in products targeting younger audiences.

6 (5) Girls are encouraged to adopt a sexy appearance and  
7 behavior before they are able to understand sexuality, feel sexual  
8 desire, or have the critical ability to make responsible decisions  
9 regarding the risk of sexual intimacy.

10 (6) High media consumption has been linked to aggressive  
11 behavior, early sexualization, drug and alcohol consumption,  
12 unhealthy food choices, childhood obesity, negative self-image,  
13 and negative school performance.

14 (7) Early sexualization is linked to unwanted pregnancies and  
15 a rise in sexually transmitted infections.

16 (8) Sexual initiation before the age of 13 has been linked to the  
17 use of weapons, interpersonal violence, and experimentation with  
18 drugs and alcohol.

19 (9) Early sexual initiation is inversely correlated to the use of  
20 coercion. The younger a girl is at sexual initiation, the higher the  
21 chance she has been forced or coerced.

22 (10) While sexually precocious boys have high self-esteem,  
23 sexually precocious girls have low self-esteem.

24 (11) The erotization of images contributes to the fetishization  
25 of girls in the media. Erotized and passive images of girls  
26 encourage a devaluation of their contribution to society. The  
27 representation of girls as legitimate sex objects encourages sexual  
28 exploitation. Girls learn to see and value themselves as sex objects.

29 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to limit  
30 the public display of sexualized images of female minors by  
31 restricting the advertising of products, services, and entertainment  
32 that portray female minors in a sexualized manner.